

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) In a network of stations interconnected by a transmission medium, a method of operating a station according to a media access control protocol comprises:
  - receiving on the transmission medium at the station a first frame transmission having a destination address corresponding to the station; and
  - transmitting on the transmission medium at the station a second frame transmission including information from the first frame transmission other than the destination address, the information from the first frame transmission occupying fewer bits than the destination address but being sufficiently unique to the first frame transmission as to convey that the second frame transmission is a response to the first frame transmission.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first frame transmission includes a frame check sequence and the information in the second frame transmission includes a received frame check sequence field for specifying at least a portion of the frame check sequence in the first frame transmission and is to be used to determine that the second frame transmission is a response to the first frame transmission.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first frame transmission includes an indication that a response is expected.

4. (Previously Presented) In a network of stations interconnected by a transmission medium, a media access control unit in a station comprising:

a receive handler to receive on the transmission medium a first frame transmission having a destination address corresponding to the station; and

a transmit handler to transmit on the transmission medium a second frame transmission including information from the first frame transmission other than the destination address, the information from the first frame transmission occupying fewer bits than the destination address but being sufficiently unique to the first frame transmission as to convey that the second frame transmission is a response to the first frame transmission.

5. (Previously Presented) The media access control unit of claim 4, wherein the first frame transmission includes a frame check sequence and the information in the second frame transmission includes a received frame check sequence field for specifying at least a portion of the frame check sequence in the first frame transmission and is to be used to determine that the second frame transmission is a response to the first frame transmission.

6. (Previously Presented) The media access control unit of claim 5, wherein the first frame transmission includes an indication that a response is expected.